

Remarks

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the Office Action mailed January 10, 2007. With entry of this amendment, claims 1-37 are pending. Claims 1, 13-16, 21-25, and 37 have been amended. Claim 20 has been canceled. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the subject application.

Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Claims 1-2, 9-10, 13-20, 25-26, 33-34 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,111,173 (Scheidt). Claims 3-8, 11-12, 21-24, 27-32 and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Scheidt in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,948,066 (Hind).

Formal Matters

Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out the priority correction related to the application number of the provisional application from which benefit is claimed. Applicant replaced the first paragraph of the specification with complete priority data.

Claims 15 and 16 are amended in response to the objection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In particular, claim 15 was made more definite by clarifying that the generator is the "biometric generator" of claim 14. Claim 16 was amended in similar fashion for clarification of what the operator is and that the generator is the biometric generator of claim 15.

Regarding rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office action applies Scheidt (U.S. 7,111,173) under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) to claims 1-2, 9-10, 13-20, 25-26, 33-34 and 37. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1 as amended includes in part, maintaining a credibility record associated with the data record, wherein each piece of data entered in the data record is assigned a credibility weight based upon credibility coefficients assigned to the data record. The cited sections of Scheidt (column 8, lines 18-20, and column 9 lines 55-64) were used to reject the credibility record

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limitation of claim 1. The column 8 citation refers to policies, such as minimum password length that are also included in user's credentials, wherein the user's credentials include a user's permission set as discussed in Scheidt. Applicant asserts that a minimum password length may be associated with permissions or credentials, but applicant can find nothing in the Scheidt reference to show each piece of data entered in the data record being assigned a credibility weight based upon credibility coefficients assigned to the data record as recited in amended claim 1. Additionally, the column 9 citation refers to a user ID who encrypted an object to be stored in a header of an encrypted object along with a credential manager's identity but not the credibility weight for each piece of data as recited in the amended claim. As such, the rejection of claim 1 and all claims depending from claim 1 should be withdrawn. Claim 25 was amended to contain a similar recitation as the amended portion of claim 1, and as such the rejection of claim 25 and all claims depending from claim 25 should be withdrawn.

Claim 14 was amended to recite similar limitations to claim 1, in particular, claim 14 recites a credibility record associated with the data record, wherein each piece of data entered in the data record is assigned a credibility weight based upon credibility coefficients assigned to the data record. Applicant has reviewed the cited art and again asserts that, for the reasons stated above, the 102(e) rejection under Scheidt should be withdrawn with respect to claim 14 and all dependent claims.

Regarding rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3-8, 11-12, 21-24, 27-32 and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Scheidt in view of Hind. Scheidt was recited to the method, system and machine readable medium of claims 1, 14 and 25. Applicant has reviewed Hind and found no teaching to cure the deficiencies of Scheidt with respect to a credibility record associated with

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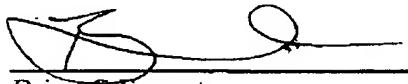
the data record, wherein each piece of data entered in the data record is assigned a credibility weight based upon credibility coefficients assigned to the data record. As such, the rejection of claims 3-8, 11-12, 21-24, 27-32 and 35-36 under Scheidt in view of Hind, should be withdrawn for at least their dependence on claims 1, 14 and 25.

Based on the foregoing comments, the above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account No. 50-3397. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 50-3397.

Respectfully submitted,

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